

**Page Denied**

Next 6 Page(s) In Document Denied

CTON POST

25 AUG

## Managua Jails Businessman As CIA Spy

By Nancy Nussler  
Special to The Washington Post

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Aug. 24—The vice president of Nicaragua's Chamber of Commerce, arrested by security forces last Tuesday, has admitted to working as a spy for the CIA, according to a government communique released today in the official newspaper.

The Interior Ministry report published in the *Barricada* newspaper said that Guillermo Quant Tai admitted that he "had been recruited by the CIA in 1983 and had received materials and training to carry out his task in espionage."

The communique, which did not quote Quant directly, said formulas used to decode messages transmitted by the CIA by radio were found at his house inside a secret bathroom scale "prepared especially by the North American agency."

The communique also said the government had found evidence that Quant was sending "information solicited by the CIA" to postal boxes in Mexico and Costa Rica.

The Chamber of Commerce is a member of the Nicaraguan private business coalition, known as COSEP. The government is continuing its investigation into whether others are involved in the espionage case, the communique said.

The U.S. Embassy declined to answer questions on the charges. "We do not comment on intelligence activities," an official said.

Quant's wife, Haydee de Quant, interviewed at her home in the presence of a state security official, said that her husband was detained last Tuesday when he went to pick up his driver's license after it had been taken away because of a traffic violation. She denied he worked with the CIA.

Last March, state security officials announced the arrest of two Nicaraguan employees of the Interior Ministry on charges that they worked as spies for the CIA. They also named four U.S. Embassy officials as their contacts. U.S. officials familiar with intelligence activities in Central America described that operation as a sign of improved counterintelligence by the Sandinista government.